

## LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A garment hanger holding device, comprising:  
a hook member having a body portion and a hook portion and a longitudinal axis extending through said body portion and said hook portion;  
a rectangular slot in said body portion and having a long dimension extending transverse to said axis for receiving a strap threaded therethrough;  
a strap threaded through said slot;  
a portion of said strap being in the form of a loop; and  
said loop ~~capable of~~ having a size and shape suitable for receiving a hook portion of a ~~conventional~~ garment hanger.
2. (Original) The device according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of slots in said body portion.
3. (Original) The device according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of loops formed with said strap.
4. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 2, wherein said strap is threaded through each one of said ~~rectangular~~ slots.
5. (Original) The device according to claim 4, further comprising a plurality of loops formed with said strap.
6. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein said hook portion is substantially in the shape of an arc sufficient in size to receive a ~~conventional~~ predetermined size rod for hanging garments.

7. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein said loop is formed by affixing opposing portions of said strap to one another.

8. (Original) The device according to claim 1, further comprising an adjustable member through which a portion of said strap is threaded to thereby permit a size of said loop to be modified.

9. (Currently Amended) A device for holding garment hangers on a rod, comprising:

a hook shaped member having a body portion and a hook portion;  
an opening in said body portion having a long dimension extending transverse to a long dimension of said device;  
an extended hook region on an end of said hook portion;  
a hook opening between said body portion and said extended hook ~~extension~~ region; and  
said hook opening having a dimension ~~related to~~ sufficiently near a diameter of ~~a standard size~~ said rod to impede passage of said rod through said hook opening.

10. (Original) The device according to claim 9, wherein opposed surfaces across said hook opening are convex in profile.

11. (Currently Amended) A device for holding garment hangers on a rod, comprising:

a hook shaped member having a body portion and a hook portion;  
an opening in said body portion ~~for receiving a strap threaded therethrough~~ having a long dimension extending transverse to a long dimension of said device;  
~~a portion of said strap threaded through said opening and~~ being in the form of a loop;  
an extended hook region on an end of said hook portion;  
a hook opening between said body portion and said extended hook ~~extension~~ region; and

said hook opening having a dimension sufficiently near ~~related to~~ a diameter of a standard size said rod to impede passage of said rod through said hook opening.

12. (Original) The device according to claim 11, wherein opposed surfaces across said hook opening are convex in profile.

13. (Original) The device according to claim 11, further comprising a plurality of openings in said body portion.

14. (Original) The device according to claim 13, wherein said strap is threaded through each one of said openings.

15. (Original) The device according to claim 11, wherein said loop is formed by affixing opposing portions of said strap to one another.

16. (Original) The device according to claim 11, further comprising an adjustable member through which a portion of said strap is threaded to thereby permit a size of said loop to be modified.

17. Canceled.

18. (Currently Amended) A device for holding garment hangers on a rod, comprising:

a hook shaped member having a body portion and a hook portion;  
~~a plurality of openings~~ an opening in said body portion for receiving a strap;  
an extended hook region on an end of said hook portion and having a straight edge area;  
a body portion surface opposing said straight edge area and defining a hook opening  
between said body portion surface and said ~~hook extension region~~ straight edge area; and

said hook opening having a dimension ~~comparable to~~ sufficiently near a diameter of a standard-size ~~said rod for supporting hung garments to impede passage of said rod through said~~ hook opening.

19. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 18, further comprising:  
a strap threaded through ~~at least two of said openings~~ opening in said body portion; and  
a loop formed in said strap for receiving a hook of a garment hanger.

20. (Original) The device according to claim 19, further comprising a plurality of loops formed in said strap.

21. (Currently Amended) A device for holding garment hangers with a strap, comprising:  
a hook shaped member having a body portion and a hook portion and a long dimension;  
~~an opening a slot~~ in said body portion extending transversely to said long dimension; and  
~~an extended hook region on an end of said hook portion~~;  
~~— a hook opening between said body portion and said hook extension region; and~~  
~~— said body portion opposed to said hook extension region having a curved surface to provide a minimal dimension of said hook opening coinciding with a point on said curved surface~~ said slot having a size and shape generally matching said strap to accommodate said strap in a close fit for preventing said strap from being folded or experiencing imbalanced wear.

22. (Currently Amended) A device for holding garment hangers on a rod, comprising:  
a hook shaped member having a body portion and a hook portion along a longitudinal axis;  
an opening in said body portion having a long dimension transverse to said axis;  
an extended hook region on an end of said hook portion and having a straight edge area;

a body portion surface opposing said straight edge area and defining a hook opening between said body portion surface and said straight edge area hook extension region;

at least one opposed surface across said hook opening being convex in profile said body portion surface or said straight edge area having a curved surface such that a dimension of said hook opening is smallest at a peak of said curved surface; and

said hook opening having a dimension ~~related to~~ sufficiently near a diameter of ~~a standard size said rod to impede passage of said rod through said hook opening.~~

23. Canceled.

24. (Currently Amended) A device for holding garment hangers on a rod, comprising:

a hook shaped member having a body portion and a hook portion along a long axis of said hook shaped member;

an opening in said body portion;

an extended hook region on an end of said hook portion and having a straight edge area forming an angle with said axis;

a body portion surface opposing said straight edge area and defining a hook opening at said angle with said axis, whereby said rod is guided into said hook opening at said angle with said axis when said device is placed on said rod. between said body portion and said hook extension region; and

~~at least one opposed surface across said hook opening is convex in profile thereby contributing to an interference with the removal of said hook portion from said rod.~~

25. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] device according to claim 24, further for holding garment hangers, comprising:

a first convexly curved surface on said straight edge area;

a second convexly curved surface on said hook shaped member having a body portion surface; and a hook portion;

said first and second surfaces cooperating to form a more narrow hook ~~[[an]]~~ opening ~~[[in]]~~ when said axis is generally orthogonal to said rod and a wider hook opening when said axis is at an angle to said rod, whereby said device is more easily removed from said rod when said axis is at an angle to body portion;

~~—— an extended hook region on an end of said hook portion;~~  
~~—— a hook opening between said body portion and said hook extension region; and~~  
~~—— said hook opening shaped to receive a rod at an angle measured from a vertical axis of said hook shaped member, whereby a resistance to removal of said hook shaped member from said rod is reduced when said hook shaped member is moved to substantially align said hook opening with a horizontal plane of said rod.~~

26. (New) The device according to claim 1, wherein said slot is rectangular.

27. (New) The device according to claim 2, wherein one of said plurality of slots is rectangular.

28. (New) The device according to claim 18, wherein said body portion surface or said straight edge area is convexly curved.

29. (New) A device for holding garment hangers on a rod, comprising:  
a hook portion having a straight edge area defining one side of a hook opening;  
a body portion having a body portion surface opposed to said straight edge area and defining a hook opening therebetween;  
a long axis of said device passing through said hook portion and said body portion;  
a first convexly curved surface on said straight edge area;  
a second convexly curved surface on said body portion surface; and  
said first and second surfaces cooperating to form a more narrow hook opening when said axis is generally orthogonal to said rod and a wider hook opening when said axis is at an angle to

said rod, whereby said device is more easily removed from said rod when said axis is at an angle to said rod.

30. (New) The device according to claim 29, wherein said first or second convexly curved surface is curved in the shape of a dihedral.